

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 IO-12 ADP-00 OIC-04 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-02 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-12 PRS-01 OMB-01 AF-10

ARA-11 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSR-01 /224 W

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R 130820 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8804

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: GATT TEXTILES WORKING PARTY

REF: GENEVA 1573

1. PATTERSON TOLD US YESTERDAY SECRETARIAT IS THINKING OF
APPROACH TO TEXTILE PROBLEM ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A. WORKING PARTY WOULD RECOMMEND AND CONCERNED
PARTIES WOULD BY SEPTEMBER REACH INTERIM AGREEMENT ON COTTON,
WOOL AND MAN- MADES, TO INCLUDE ONE YEAR STANDSTILL DURING WHICH
CURRENT RESTRICTIONS COULD REMAIN IN FORCE WITH NO FURTHER
JUSTIFYING ACTION, BUT THERE WOULD BE NO NEW RESTRICTIONS.
DURING THIS PERIOD ANY PARTICIPATING COUNTRY WHICH WANTED NEW
SAFEGUARDING RESTRICTION OR RESTRAINT WOULD BE OBLIGED TO GO
THROUGH MULTILATERAL PROCEDURE FOR APPROVAL. (WP WOULD
DEVELOP SUCH PROCEDURE IN MAY AND JUNE.) RESTRICTIONS WOULD
BE PHASED OUT AT END OF YEAR UNLESS JUSTIFIED UNDER FUTURE
MULTILATERAL PROCESS (SEE B BELOW).

B. LONG- TERM RULES COULD BE WORKED OUT DURING STANDSTILL.

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THESE MIGHT BE (AFTER STANDSTILL PERIOD) ANY COUNTRY NEEDING RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE OBLIGED TO INFORM SOME AGREED MULTILATERAL GROUP (POSSIBLY EXPERT PANEL) OF ITS REASONS AND OBTAIN APPROVAL OF GROUP. GROUP WOULD CONSIDER PROPOSAL IN RELATION TO CRITERIA OF SERIOUSNESS OF SITUATION (CRITERIA TO BE NEGOTIATED), TAKING ACCOUNT OF SPECIFICS PROPOSED E. G. RATE OF IMPORT GROWTH PERMITTED, ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE, ETC. IF PROPOSAL FOUND REASONABLE BY MULTILATERAL GROUP, EXPORTING COUNTRY COULD NOT RETALIATE OR CLAIM COMPENSATION; IF FOUND NOT APPROPRIATE AND IMPORTING COUNTRY WENT THROUGH WITH ACTION, COMPENSATION OR RETALIATION WOULD BE AUTHORIZED. RESTRICTIONS COULD BE DISCRIMINATORY IF NECESSARY. THERE WOULD BE PERIODIC REVIEW OF ALL RESTRICTIONS.

2. WE SAID WE WOULD CONVEY SUGGESTIONS TO WASHINGTON WITHOUT OFFICIAL COMMENT EXCEPT TO SAY THAT U. S. STILL ANTICIPATES LONG- TERM SOLUTION BEFORE SEPTEMBER, BUT ALSO EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW U. S. WOULD NOT FIND PROCESS ACCEPTABLE FOR TEXTILES WHICH TAKES DECISIONS ON RESTRAINTS SO FAR OUT OF HANDS OF IMPORTING COUNTRY.

3. PATTERSON SAID SECRETARIAT HAS PHONED ALL INTERESTED PARTIES NOT PRESENT AT RECENT MEETING RE DRAFT WP MANDATE, WHICH IT HAS CIRCULATED AS COUNCIL DOCUMENT (C/ W/220 APRIL 6, POUCHED), AND HAS NOT YET HEARD ANY OBJECTIONS, THOUGH IT IS TOO EARLY TO BE SURE THERE WILL BE NONE. WE ASKED HIM TO LET US KNOW PROMPTLY IF ANY OBJECTIONS ARE HEARD. RIMESTAD

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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